

THE HAWAIIAN STAR

Published every afternoon (except Sunday) by the Hawaiian Star Newspaper Association, Ltd., Star Building, Merchant Street, Honolulu.

WALTER G. SMITH, EDITOR

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1912

THE STAR—PRESENT AND FUTURE.

That the Star has gone steadily forward to the goal set by its owners at the time of its business organization, does not depend alone on special assertion in these columns but on facts which the public knows for itself. The new Star building tells its own story. So does the growing increase of the daily's readers as seen in the street cars and in all public places, and in the burdens of carriers; and in the measurable increase of advertising, the enlargement in size of both the daily and semi-weekly issues. All these proofs of progress are known to the city and the Territory; but there are more in being and in prospect.

For instance the Star is about to acquire a modern press, larger than any now in use in Hawaii, at a cost equal to the entire capitalization of the plant at the beginning of the Star's career. The value of this press to our readers will be clear. With the old press it has been necessary to close some of the "forms" early and get them out of the way; and so it has often happened that we went finally to press with space occupied by matter of a general nature, prepared and printed early, with scant room left for the publication of important news, accruing at a late hour. By means of the new press all "forms" will be held open until nearly the time of issue so that there will be all the space required for the details of events that are slow in reaching us or which press upon a full first page. It can no longer happen that interesting matter will have to go over until the next day while less valuable contributions have the freedom of early printed pages inside. The result will be a better balanced paper, fresher and more complete news, a more reliable issuance and, we trust, more readers.

The growth of the Star's admirable job-plant has already required the installation of a fast Miehle press, by which commercial work may be run off faster than ever before. This press increases the Star's capacity to turn out all kinds of commercial printing and marks the latest improvements in method as well as in speed.

Regarding changes in the staff, the Star has already given notice of the retirement of its present editor and its business manager, the former to go into the wider field of promotion for Hawaii on the mainland, and the other to seek fresh avenues of usefulness here. These changes are merely coincidences and in no way halt the progress of the Star, to which the owners will continue to devote their energies, nor reflect upon the capacity of either the paper or its chief employees to meet the public need. The places of both gentlemen will be adequately filled; and the readers of the Star will see no change from the old policies of the paper or in the ideas of public to which it has been devoted for almost two decades.

PROSPERITY AND HIGHER PRICES.

In all is said on the subject of the high price of living, the main cause of it is prosperity and the excess which prosperity begets. Since 1896 the world has been productive and money has been plentiful. Naturally one with anything to sell has acted as if he had a customer with lots of cash and no need of saving it and has thereby felt encouraged to ask more for his wares. It is prosperity which enlarges demand for the things people covet; and as demand grows prices always rise to meet it. By the same token, as demand lessens, as it does in hard times, prices fall to keep within the limit of incomes.

Prosperity accounts for the automobiles, high priced food-stuffs, the extension of credit, tipping, the importation of luxuries, increase of official administrators, increased building outlay, the multiplication of middlemen and the desertion of farming for lines of business which offer greater returns, the choice of professional vocations which decrease the number of producers. Prosperity induces a spirit of recklessness in which buyer and seller share. There was a near-by and concrete example of it in San Francisco when the influx of insurance and loan money to rebuild life city induced a period of fictitious prosperity there. Then everything went up from the wages of bricklayers to the prices of hats. Everybody sought the easy money; everybody felt the stimulus of prosperous times. Bricklayers asked \$8 a day of short hours. Common laborers wanted to live high, and the butchers had hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of cheap cuts in cold storage, unable to sell them. Your former \$1.50 men wanted prime rib roasts and chickens so as to spend his \$6 a day. The era was one of inflation and its phenomena were like that of all such periods.

For years the world, and particularly this nation, has been passing through similar experiences. There is but little cheapness left. The rise of prices goes on in all quarters because there is more prosperity to meet it; and where prosperity does not naturally extend there are strikes to compel a more equal distribution of wealth and socialism to make such distribution permanent. In America the crops have been bumper ones, over and over again. The revenue from the tariff has been large. Money for pensions and military simply changes hands at home. Here is an annual statement, lately received from the government, which tells part of the story. We can only use a portion of it:

The foreign trade of the United States in the fiscal year which ends with next month will show larger totals than in any earlier year. The ten months' figures covering the commerce down to the close of April, just compiled by the Bureau of Statistics, Department of Commerce and Labor, make it quite apparent that in both imports and exports the totals for the fiscal year 1912 will be the largest on record. Imports seem likely to approximate 1600 million dollars, exceeding by between 40 and 50 million dollars the high record import year 1910, when the total was 1557 million dollars. Exports seem likely to approximate 2200 million dollars, or about 150 million dollars more than those of the previous high record of 2049 million made in the fiscal year 1911.

This growth in foreign commerce, while common to both imports and exports, is especially marked in the export trade. Imports have increased approximately \$59 million dollars since 1896, while exports in the same time have increased about 1200 million, the excess of exports over imports in the same period increasing from 103 million dollars in 1896 to about 600 million dollars in the current fiscal year. This excess of exports of 600 million indicated for the fiscal year now closing will be larger than that of any earlier years except 1898, 1901, and 1908, in each of which years it was considerably above the 600 million dollar line.

The principal articles comprising the 1600 million dollars of imports in the fiscal year, grouped according to the approximate magnitude of their prospective totals are as follows: Coffee, 120 million dollars; sugar, 110 million; rubber, 100 million; hides and skins, 95 million; chemicals, etc., 90 million; cotton manufactures, fiber manufactures, and raw silk, 50 to 65 million; tin, fruits and nuts, and wood, including manufactures, each about 45 million; art works, copper manufactures, raw fibers, diamonds and other precious stones, and wool, between 35 and 40 million dollars each; and tea, spirits, wines and liquors, raw cotton, leather, paper, meat and dairy products, furs and fur skins, fish, cocoa, raising downward from 20 million to 10 million dollars each. The most conspicuous increases, comparing with 1911, occur in art works, over 50 per cent; hides and skins, 40 per cent; sugar, 15 per cent; tin, 20 per cent; and coffee about 30 per cent.

The leading exports and their indicated totals for the fiscal year are about as follows: Raw cotton, 585 million dollars; iron and steel manufactures, 260 million; meat and dairy products, 160 million; breadstuffs, 135 million; copper, 110 million; mineral oils, 100 million; lumber, etc., 90 million; cotton manufactures and coal, each about 50 million; agricultural implements, cars and carriages, leather, and tobacco, each about 40 million; and vegetable oils and fruits and nuts, between 20 and 35 million dollars each. The largest increases occur in iron and steel, about 20 per cent; meat and dairy products, 20 per cent, and copper and mineral oils, each 10 per cent, the comparisons, both in imports and exports relating to values only.

Here are the year's figures of an unparalleled prosperity for us. The balance of trade is immensely in our favor. Commerce is enriching Germany too, and is still enriching England. All Europe is feel-

THE MONTHLY GROUCH

By WALT MASON.

He gaily goes into the stores and buys brick cheese and oven doors and things and has them charged; the smile he wears is good to see; with fifty-seven kinds of glee his bosom seems enlarged. He seems to like the little graft of buying up a whole blamed raft of goods of divers sorts; and strangers seeing him would say: "He surely has a queenly way! He seems a prince of sports!" But on the first day of the month—collection day, say June the oneth—his sweet smiles aren't there; and when the tired collector comes he snorts around and haws and hums, as savage as a bear. "This bill must be corrected, please; I didn't buy that Sweitzer cheese nor yet that stovepipe hat; you have me charged with potted meat—it simply wasn't fit to eat—I will not pay for that! Your prices are too beastly high; you soak me, for you know that I am always prompt to pay; take back your bill and make it right, then come around next Thursday night—don't bother me today!" The wan collector, tired and pale, must camp upon this fellow's trail and circumvent his wiles; and still the villain she pursues until she wears out all her shoes and sickens of his smiles.

Copyright, 1912, by George Matthew Adams. WALT MASON.

ing richer; even Portugal. Denmark is having its greatest agricultural growth. And with it all, higher prices everywhere have been the precedent condition. It is no longer the Europe of old where tourists could run about and save money over the sum total of expenses at home.

The remedy? Why hard times, such as began the descent of prices in 1873. But are there any of us that would invoke that antidote, which is worse than the bane?

Most lessees of land are not permitted, when the lease expires, to remove the improvements they have made themselves or which were already on the soil. Is a grown keawe tree not subject to this rule, or doesn't the rule extend to leases made by the Kapiolani Estate? That corporation has always taken the pound of flesh, whether it was justified in doing so or not. It was accused some years ago of trespassing on the sidewalk space of Alakea street for the Kapiolani building, notwithstanding that it had previously sold the space to the Territory. The public has never heard how that trespass was settled.

But for the untimely death of Governor Johnson, Minnesota, which has given its Democratic delegates to Wilson, would have probably had a leading candidate of her own. Three years ago Johnson was regarded as the coming man. Now it is hard to recall his initials.

Intervention in Cuba is quite another thing from intervention in Mexico. Cuba is not covered by the Draga doctrine, while Mexico is. Besides, every man in Cuba who owns a plot of land or a ton of sugar would like to have it annexed to the American pricelist.

The girl who goes to school in an expensive dress and with jewelry incites a higher price of living among the other girls.

Here's hoping over a new Hawaiian cigar that our tobacco business will always find the right way to go up in smoke.

The coffee trust won't stand a chance of its life if Abe Louissou sees it before it sees him.

The Panama fair ought to bring excursions this way from New Zealand and Australia.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

CAPTAIN ALLMAN (China) — I have prevented me from taking my customary exercise of late and I have accordingly accumulated some weight. I am now in strict training, however, and the fat is coming off nicely.

J. WALTER DOYLE—The Fourth of July celebration this year is going to put all previous celebrations away in the shade. What with the civic parade, the big military tournament, the kymkhana afterward, and the lantern regatta and fireworks on the water-front, Honolulu will be right tired when they retire at the close of the festivities, but they will have enjoyed themselves.

WILLARD E. BROWN—Don't say I've "retired." The news that I was getting out of the stock business got around yesterday, and the questions about my "retirement" got on my nerves. I have neither the means nor the inclination to retire from business. Confidentially, I feel that I shall enjoy at least twenty years more work, but what this will be is really undetermined in my mind at the present time.

R. M. LINDSAY (Hilo)—The Hilo boys are getting in shape to play the champion soccer team of Honolulu on the Fourth of July for inter-island honors. We would like to know what colors the Honolulu team will play in and if they want us to supply the referee or not. If they want us to supply the referee we have three or four first-class men right here in Hilo. We would be greatly obliged if the Honolulu team would bring their nets along as we have none.

PAUL SMITH—The big work in connection with the last shipload of immigrants is over but there is plenty to do now in attending to minor business for the immigrants who depend upon us for advice and assistance where we can give it.

"DOC" NUGENT—The Pake laundries have formed a trust and boosted prices so high that I'm afraid I'll soon be suppressed for a nuisance or else have to go bankrupt trying to pay for keeping clean. Who was it said cost of living isn't increasing?

JOHN O'ROURKE — Arrangements for the Hilo Fourth of July celebration are going along splendidly. We expect to have at least 3000 people at Hoolulu Park to witness the program of athletic events and horse races which has been mapped out.

A. T. WISDOM—I sincerely hope that Secretary Super can secure the services of P. W. Lee of the Portland Y. M. C. A. as men's physical director here. I have worked with Lee and know him to be one of the fastest and best in the business. He's on his toes all the time and would prove a live addition to the staff here.

ARCHIE ROBERTSON—I expect to be in fair shape to take part in the A. A. U. swimming meeting on June 11. Pressure of work at the office

INDUSTRY RUINED

(Continued from Page One)
But the fruitfully came in and knocked him out completely. He had expected to make \$10,000 out of the business before very long. Instead he has a loss and has had to cancel his contract with the firm.

"Mr. Campo made complaint to Mr. Starrett, who said: 'Now we will change the subject on this pepper question. I have seeds here that I imported myself and these are extra hot peppers that the fly does not enter. The Chile pepper factory on the mainland will pay you twenty cents a pound for these dry hot peppers, being a variety that is raised in Mexico.' "So Mr. Campo took three pounds of this Chile pepper seed from Mr. Starrett. He worked up about an acre

of land and set out 15,000 plants at a great expense for labor, taxes, city water, etc., and here are results of the hot Chile pepper from the fly, and they are all that way."

Mr. Dutra pointed to the red skins in the opened parcel and continued, now interpreting for Mr. Campo:

"Chile peppers can be grown here better than anywhere else in the world. Any man knowing the business of cultivating the Chile pepper in less than no time can easily accumulate \$10,000. There is no end to the mainland market for products of this kind. This experiment alone stands me in the neighborhood of \$600 loss. If something is not done in regard to the fruitfly our islands will be ruined so far as vegetables and fruits are concerned.

"For this very reason many Spanish families are leaving the islands. Only for this pest two-thirds of those leaving would remain here. Their main object in going to California is to start farming on their own account."

INTENDED BRIDE OF C. F. LOOMIS

The Kansas City Star has the following to say regarding the approaching marriage of Charles F. Loomis, in charge of the boys' work at the local Y. M. C. A., and Miss Alice Richardson of Kansas City, which will take place here late in the summer:

"A romance began three years ago between two sophomores of the University of Missouri. Last spring both were graduated and the young man accepted a position as director of boys' work in the Y. M. C. A. in Honolulu. But three thousand miles failed to end the romance. Miss Alice Richardson, a daughter of E. E. Richardson, 104 Westport avenue, will sail July 24 for Honolulu to marry Charles F. Loomis, the M. S. U. young man. They will be married at the home of Paul Super, general director of the Y. M. C. A., who was in Columbus, Mo., yesterday.

"Miss Richardson was graduated from Manual Training High School in 1907. In the fall she entered the University of Missouri. She was president of the Y. W. C. A. there and a member of the Delta Gamma Sorority. Mr. Loomis, whose home was in St. Louis, was a Pi Kappa Alpha."

SUPER WRITES OF HIS QUEST

General Secretary Paul Super of the local Y. M. C. A., in a letter received from him this morning, states that he is negotiating with two men for the position of men's physical director of the association here. One is P. W. Lee, assistant director of the Portland association who has had ten years' experience in the work. The other is H. E. Barlow of Oak Park, Ill. He has been in charge of the work at Oak Park for two years and is a graduate of the Chicago Y. M. C. A. training school.

Secretary Super also sends additional data on W. E. Johnson, the crack University of Missouri athlete who has been engaged as boy's physical director. He says Johnson's record for the mile is 4.27 flat, ten minutes flat for the two miles and 55 minutes for ten miles. Johnson will go to the Lake Geneva physical training school for a term before reporting for duty here.

KAKAOKO MISSION.

The Loyal Temperance Legion of Kakaoko Mission held its fourth meeting Tuesday at the Mission, with Sam Kamaka, president, in the chair. He and his staff of officers had their hearts made glad by eighteen new

members signing the pledge, making a membership of fifty-four. Those interested in temperance should rejoice at these young people, banded together in behalf of temperance and promising to do great things for others as well as themselves.

W. Holt has applied for a wholesale, and M. Faria for a retail liquor license, both at Wai'alua.

SLOW AND SURE.

Mabel—Yes, my grandpa has reached the age of 96. Isn't it wonderful? Willie—Wonderful nothin'! Look at the time it's taken him to do it.—Boston Transcript.

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Alewa Heights, 2 B R. 30.00
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Wai'alae Rd., 2 B R. 30.00
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